

Faribault Middle School Registration Guide 2018-2019



Faribault Middle School

All Means All

“We Are FALCON STRONG!”

Faribault Middle School Registration Guide 2018-2019

This registration guide is designed to assist students and parent/guardians in understanding the program of studies and registration process at FMS. You will see the course descriptions for elective classes, required classes and options that require an application in this guide.

Please note the following during this selection process:

- FMS will operate on a Modified Block Schedule. This means all students, grades 6-8, will take a total of seven courses each grading term (1 quarter = grading term).
- On Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays each class is 48 minutes in length. There is an Advisory period between 1st and 2nd hour that is 20 minutes in length on these days.
- Wednesdays and Thursdays will have “Block” days. This means the class periods are 93 minutes. There is an Academic Seminar on Thursdays at the end of the day. This block of time is divided into two 44 minute sessions to help support academics and to provide enrichment opportunities.

Faribault Middle School Weekly Bell Schedule 11.10.17		
Monday, Tuesday, Friday (7 period Day Schedule)		
Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
7:50 - 8:38 (48) 1st Hour	7:50 - 8:38 (48) 1st Hour	7:50 - 8:38 (48) 1st Hour
8:42 - 9:02 Advisory	8:42 - 9:02 Advisory	8:42 - 9:02 Advisory
9:06 - 9:54 (48) 2nd Hour	9:06 - 9:54 (48) 2nd Hour	9:06 - 9:54 (48) 2nd Hour
9:58 - 10:46 (48) 3rd Hour	9:58 - 10:46 (48) 3rd Hour	9:58 - 10:46 (48) 3rd Hour
10:50 - 11:16 (26) A Lunch	10:50 - 11:38 (48) 4th Hour	10:50 - 11:38 (48) 4th Hour
11:20 - 12:08 (48) 4th Hour	11:42 - 12:08 (26) B Lunch	11:42 - 12:30 (48) 5th Hour
12:12 - 1:00 (48) 5th Hour	12:12 - 1:00 (48) 5th Hour	12:34 - 1:00 (26) C Lunch
1:04 - 1:52 (48) 6th Hour	1:04 - 1:52 (48) 6th Hour	1:04 - 1:52 (48) 6th Hour
1:56 - 2:44 (48) 7th Hour	1:56 - 2:44 (48) 7th Hour	1:56 - 2:44 (48) 7th Hour
Wednesday Block Schedule (ODD period day Schedule)		
Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
7:50 - 9:23 (93) 1st Hour	7:50 - 9:23 (93) 1st Hour	7:50 - 9:23 (93) 1st Hour
8:38 - 8:58 SC Breakfast	8:38 - 8:58 SC Breakfast	8:38 - 8:58 SC Breakfast
9:27 - 11:00 (93) 3rd Hour	9:27 - 11:00 (93) 3rd Hour	9:27 - 11:00 (93) 3rd Hour
11:04 - 11:30 (26) A Lunch	11:03-11:48 (45) or 11:03-12:06 (63) 5th Hour	11:04 - 12:37 (93) 5th Hour
11:34 - 1:07 (93) 5th Hour	Lunch: 11:52-12:17 (25) B1 or 12:10-12:35 (25) B2	
	12:21-1:07 (46) or 12:39-1:07 (28) 5th Hour	12:41 - 1:07 (26) C Lunch
1:11 - 2:44 (93) 7th Hour	1:11 - 2:44 (93) 7th Hour	1:11 - 2:44 (93) 7th Hour
Thursday Block Schedule (EVEN period day Schedule)		
Grade 6	Grade 7	Grade 8
7:50 - 9:23 (93) 2nd Hour	7:50 - 9:23 (93) 2nd Hour	7:50 - 9:23 (93) 2nd Hour
8:38 - 8:58 SC Breakfast	8:38 - 8:58 SC Breakfast	8:38 - 8:58 SC Breakfast
9:27 - 11:00 (93) 4th Hour	9:27 - 11:00 (93) 4th Hour	9:27 - 11:00 (93) 4th Hour
11:04 - 11:30 (26) A Lunch	11:03-11:48 (45) or 11:03-12:06 (63) 6th Hour	11:04 - 12:37 (93) 6th Hour
11:34 - 1:07 (93) 6th Hour	Lunch: 11:52-12:17 (25) B1 or 12:10-12:35 (25) B2	
	12:21-1:07 (46) or 12:39-1:07 (28) 6th Hour	12:41 - 1:07 (26) C Lunch
1:11 - 2:44 (93) Academic Seminar	1:11 - 2:44 (93) Academic Seminar	1:11 - 2:44 (93) Academic Seminar

STEP 1: Carefully review the course descriptions to make your selections.

STEP 2: Please use the registration form at the end of this packet to indicate your desired course choices.

Parent signature required.

STEP 3: Please submit a written request to your school's office for scheduling needs or special accommodations for your student.

ALL students will have the following courses:

6th Grade Schedule	7th Grade Schedule
Advisory	Advisory
Math: Math Concepts or Pre-Algebra 6	Math: Pre-Algebra 7 or Algebra I 7
Lang. Arts 6 or Adv. Language Arts 6 or ALC Lang Arts 6	Lang. Arts 7 or Adv. Language Arts 7 or ALC Lang Arts 7
Science: Physical Science 6	Science: Life Science 7
Social Studies: MN Studies or Advanced MN Studies	Social Studies: American Studies or Advanced AM Studies
Physical Education 6 (every other day)	Physical Education 7 (every other day)
Health 6 (every other day)	Health 7 (every other day)
2 Elective periods per QTR (must take a Music and an Art)	2 Elective periods per QTR (must take a Music and an Art)
Reading (QTR long if needed)	Reading (QTR long if needed)
8th Grade Schedule	
Advisory	
Math: Algebra I 8 or Intermediate Algebra 8	
Language Arts 8 or Advanced Language Arts 8 or ALC Lang Arts 8	
Science: Earth Science 8	
Social Studies: Global Studies or Advanced Global Studies	
Physical Education 8 (every other day)	
Health 8 (every other day)	
2 Elective periods per QTR (must take a Music and an Art)	
Reading (QTR long if needed)	

Students may choose one of the following options:

Option 1: Band/Orchestra/Choir, 1 QTR Art elective and 3 QTRs of AVID

Option 2: Band/Orchestra/Choir, 4 QTR electives (Required 1 from Art and 1 from Music)

Option 3: AVID, 4 QTR electives (Required 1 from Art and 1 from Music)

Option 4: 8 QTR electives (Required 1 from Art and 1 from Music)

****If a student is in Reading this course will replace a QTR elective***

*****Denotes a prerequisite. Please see the course description to learn more.***

Grade 6 Electives	Grade 7 Electives	Grade 8 Electives
AVID Elective 6 (year long application process)	Art: Express Yourself! 7 (QTR)	Amazing Art Race! 8 (QTR)
Band 6 (year long)	Art Rocks! 7 (QTR)	AVID Elective 8 (year long application process)
Choir 6 (year long)	AVID Elective 7 (year long application process)	Band 8 (year long)
Digital Literacy 6 (QTR)	Band 7 (year long)	Beginning Band 8 (year long)
Family & Consumer Sciences 101 (QTR)	Beginning Band 7 (year long)	Business Workshop 8 (QTR)
Gateway to Technology 6 (QTR)	Beginning Orchestra 7 (year long)	Choir 8 (year long)
Guitar & Songwriting 6 (QTR)	Choir 7 (year long)	Creative Thinking & Design 8 (QTR)
Intro to Coding 6 (QTR)	Creative Writing 7 (QTR)	Creative Writing 8 (QTR)
Intro Digital Photo & Graphic Design 6 (QTR)	Design 7(QTR)	Digital Literacy 8 (QTR)
Intro to Robotics 6 (QTR)	Digital Literacy 7 (QTR)	Draw-Paint-Design! 8 (QTR)
Modern Music History 6 (QTR)	Digital Photography 7 (QTR)	Foods 8 (QTR)
Music Technology 6 (QTR)	Foods 7 (QTR)	Gateway to Technology 8 (QTR)
Orchestra 6 (year long)	Gateway to Technology 7 (QTR)	Guitar & Songwriting 8 (QTR)
Piano Class 6 (QTR)	Graphic Design 7 (QTR)	How does Advertising work? Graphic Design 8 (QTR)
Technology 6 (QTR)	Guitar & Songwriting 7 (QTR)	How do you see the World? Digital Photography 8 (QTR)
World Cultures I 6 (QTR)	Intro to Coding 7 (QTR)	Intro to Coding 8 (QTR)
Wonderful World of Art! 6 (QTR)	Intro to Robotics 7 (QTR)	Intro to Robotics 8 (QTR)
	Media Literacy 7 (QTR)	Media Literacy 8 (QTR)
	Modern Music History 7 (QTR)	Modern Music History 8 (QTR)
	Orchestra 7 (year long)	Orchestra 8 (year long)
	Piano Class 7 (QTR)	Piano Class 8 (QTR)
	**Python Coding I 7 (QTR)	**Python Coding I 8 (QTR)
	**Robotics Mechanics 7 (QTR)	**Robotics Mechanics 8 (QTR)
	Technology & Business 7 (QTR)	World Cultures I 8 (QTR)
	World Cultures I 7 (QTR)	**World Cultures II 8 (QTR)
	**World Cultures II 7 (QTR)	

Course Placement Guide:

Advanced Courses: Faribault Public Schools is dedicated to and invested in each student's success. The majority of students in grades 6-12 find appropriate levels of challenge within the general classroom setting and some students desire a more challenging, rigorous academic experience. Advanced Courses are designed to meet the needs of students who are motivated, highly capable and require higher levels of academic challenge. Advanced Courses in English, Social Studies, and Math are designed to cover the same outcomes and curriculum as mainstream courses, with variations in pacing, depth and complexity of study, as well as an increased level of expectation regarding student work.

While in middle and high school, it is important that each student be provided with an appropriate level of challenge. This challenge should provide a sufficient amount of rigor with the probability of success and result in academic growth and confidence building. When a student is placed in an advanced course, students are expected to complete the class. To match students' academic readiness and needs with the most appropriate classroom setting, a placement consideration process is used to determine which students would be placed in each Advanced Course sequence. **Placement screening process for Advanced Courses: 90% MAP Math and 90% MAP Reading, along with above average grades, strong work ethic, and teacher recommendation. Placement tests may be given.**

Note to parents:

We recommend you take several factors into consideration when deciding how many Advanced Courses your child will take. Even though s/he may meet criteria for all Advanced Courses, students **are not required** to take them. Please consider your child's interest level in the subject area, his/her extracurricular activity schedule and your child's pace when working on homework. If you have additional questions regarding these considerations, please contact the counselors.

Reading: (Quarter Long Course -- replaces one quarter long elective) Faribault Middle School is dedicated to and invested in each student's success. Some students need more basic level support in the area of reading. Reading Intervention is designed to meet the needs of students who are performing below grade level expectations. Students are placed into this course by administration based on the below criteria.

This 9 week course is designed to provide opportunities for remedial skills in reading fluency, comprehension and Phonemic awareness. Students will engage in a variety of reading activities including, but not limited to, reading and writing for information, strategies to instill curiosity and motivation for reading, and drill and practice of basic reading / writing skills. This course is also designed to give practical examples of reading for life, such as, reading the newspaper, reading recipes, reading song lyrics, reading instructions, and building vocabulary through word games. Students will be tested for reading level placement at the beginning of the quarter, and assessed for growth at the end of the quarter. *****This class is not an elective and does not replace their required Language Arts class.**

Faribault Middle School Tier 2 Reading Criteria 6-8

Grade	Initial Placement
6	Spring MAP RIT 213 and below 5 th Gr. MCA III 550 and below
7	MAP Spring RIT 213 and below 6 th Gr. MCA III 650 and below
8	MAP Spring RIT 215 and below 7 th Gr. MCA III 750 and below

*MAP RIT score criteria is set at the 42nd percentile of national (2015 norms)

Key	
Abbreviation	Assessment Name
MAP	NWEA Measures of Academic Progress
MCA III	Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments for Reading 2013

Exit Criteria:

- Proficient MAP score
- Performing at a C or higher in Language Arts class
- Passing Reading Course

AVID Elective: (Available for grades 6-8, Application Process)

AVID is a college readiness course designed to give students the skills to get to and graduate from college. AVID teaches skills for academic success through the use of WICOR, tutorials, Cornell Notes, binder organization, advanced coursework, leadership, personal relationships, and more. Interested students must apply and go through an interview process for acceptance into the class.

AVID students are students, in the middle, capable of completing a college preparatory path with support. These students often are not realizing their full potential academically. In the identification process, a number of criteria are considered, including: state scores, 2.0-3.5 GPA, Citizenship, Attendance, Desire and Determination, First in the family to attend college, Historically, underrepresented in 4-year colleges/universities, Economically disadvantaged, and Other special circumstances.

Advisory: The school day includes an Advisory period that is made up of a group of students and a teacher from their teaching team or grade level. The purpose of Advisory is for students to have a place to build community through: school connectedness (i.e. connecting with an adult), relationships, communication, academic support, future planning, and citizenship. Students will remain with his/her advisory for their entire time at FMS. Advisories will follow a weekly schedule that will include PBIS (**P**ositive **B**ehavioral **I**nterventions and **S**upports), relationship building, college/career readiness, and various academic progress monitoring activities.

English Language Learner Course Descriptions:

EL Newcomer Courses:

Imagine Learning: Using game based learning principles Imagine Learning is a program designed to teach language and literacy concepts such as basic vocabulary, academic language, grammar, listening comprehension, phonological awareness, phonics, and fluency. Each student works on their own individualized path to meet their needs in English language development.

Math Transitions (Newcomer and non-newcomer courses offered): In this course students learn the fundamentals of math concepts including place value of multi-digit numbers, problem solving for operations, foundations for algebra, using charts and graphs, basic geometry and measurement, as well as concepts for probability.

Reading Foundations: In this course, Newcomer students develop phonemic awareness and build skills to decode words. Students learn basic English and academic vocabulary through literature and dialogue practice.

Writing Foundations: In this course, Newcomer students develop skills to extend their writing from words and lists to simple sentences and paragraphs. Throughout the year students will learn to write an email, write a "How-to" card, plan for and carry out an interview, do research for a report, and write a personal narrative.

Academic Language Development: In this course students build content area knowledge of academic language and vocabulary for Social Studies, Science, and Digital Literacy. Over the course of the school year students will learn about American symbols, citizenship, government, maps and geography, timelines, holidays, weather and climate, energy, matter, geology and fossils, and digital safety.

Non-Newcomer EL Courses:

EL Reading and EL Writing (Low): In this course (made up of two classes, EL Reading and EL Writing) we will be reading selections about various topics exploring varying fictional and nonfictional topics including the following: What defines home? How do we depend on Earth's resources? How should people deal with the forces of nature? How can a powerful character inspire a range of reactions? How do discoveries change us and the world? We will also be learning and practicing the following grammar topics: Basic sentences and writing a paragraph - Nouns, complete sentences, subject+verb agreement - Pronouns and helping verbs - Adjectives, adverbs, and participles - Past tense verbs *This course is taught by their grade-level EL teacher in a self-contained classroom.

EL Read/Write (Intermediate): This course aims to support our students in their grade-level Language Arts classes. Students receive scaffolds and other strategic support to pre-teach and reteach what students are learning in their grade-level Language Arts course along with extension activities to increase their content comprehension. *This course is taught by their grade-level EL teacher in a self-contained classroom.

6th Grade Course Descriptions:

6th Grade Core Courses (All Year Long):

Language Arts 6: This is a core class designed to develop a student's reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening using the Minnesota Common Core Standards.

Advanced Language Arts 6: This is a core class designed to develop a student's reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening using the Minnesota Common Core Standards. As an advanced class, some standards of the next grade up will be used and different texts will be used for some of the units. Students are selected based on grades, work ethic, critical thinking skills, test scores, and teacher recommendations.

ALC Language Arts 6 (Teacher Recommendation): is a class designed to teach students the art of using language to communicate via reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening. Lessons are developed to help students improve upon the skills needed to meet the Minnesota Common Core Language Arts standards. Students in the ALC program are able to take advantage of looping with the same teacher for all three grades of middle school, small class sizes, and a flexible lesson schedule.

Math Concepts 6: Students will study the following concepts: Algebraic Reasoning; Integers and Rational Numbers; Proportional Relationships; Graphs and Functions; Fractions, Decimals, and Percents; Geometry (2-D and 3-D formula use); Measurement; and Probability.

Pre-Algebra 6: **6th Grade Advanced Math** allows for a faster pace, more in-depth study of concepts, and Enrichment opportunities. Students will study the following concepts: Algebraic Reasoning; Integers and Rational Numbers; Proportional Relationships; Graphs and Functions; Fractions, Decimals, and Percents; Geometry (2-D and 3-D formula use); Measurement; and Probability.

Physical Science 6: 6th grade physical science serves as an introductory science course that will focus on core scientific principles and concepts such as scientific inquiry, engineering and design, motion, energy, matter, chemistry, waves, and light. Students will regularly integrate technology by using computer simulations, analyze digital data, and create digital media projects to demonstrate their learning. In addition, students will regularly use scientific inquiry to investigate physical science concepts. This course will prepare students with the necessary skills to be successful in 7th and 8th grade science.

Minnesota Studies: The grade six social studies curriculum centers on the state of Minnesota. We use our great state to teach history, civics, economics, geography, and help instill pride in being Minnesota citizens. To view Minnesota's 6th grade social studies standards click on the link below:

<http://education.state.mn.us/MDE/EdExc/StanCurri/K-12AcademicStandards/SocialStudies/index.html>

The following are some key units/topics that are covered throughout the school year; for additional information please view the 6th Grade Minnesota Studies curriculum map: Minnesota State Government, Minnesota Geography, Dakota and Ojibwe, European Exploration, Minnesota and the Civil War, Budgeting, A World at War, Minnesota Today, and Literacy. These are just a few of the highlights of what we cover throughout the school year. Our goal is to help each student develop a good understanding of each focus area and be proud to be from Minnesota.

Advanced Minnesota Studies: This advanced course provides students with a challenging curriculum that is aligned to the Minnesota State Standards. At the advanced level, students will use a wide variety of text to increase their use of critical thinking skills. The curriculum moves at an accelerated pace with a more concentrated focus on independent reading, writing, analysis, and problem solving. The primary goals of the course are to foster independent learning and encourage in-depth exploration of their home state of Minnesota.

Physical Education 6: This course is focused on the continued development of physically literate individuals. Physical literacy, as defined by the Society of Health and Physical Education, is the ability, confidence, and desire to be physically active for life. In PE 6, students will study a variety of motor skills and movement patterns while learning concepts, principles, strategies and tactics related to how to use those motor skills and movement patterns. Throughout the year, students will work to learn and apply the skills necessary to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness, while working towards understanding the value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression and/or social interaction. Additionally, responsible personal and social behavior that respects one's self and others is interwoven into the course. Students will complete a variety of activities including: Team Building, Throton, Foot Golf, Soccer, Archery, Fitness, Volleyball, Team Handball, Tumbling, Broomball, Basketball, Floor Hockey, Kickball and Pickleball. Students also complete portions of the FitnessGram fitness test (curl-ups, pull-ups/flexed arm hang, mile, PACER and back-saver sit and reach).

Health 6: In 6th grade health we discuss the dimensions of health (Physical, Emotional/Mental, & Social) daily to incorporate the learning into our everyday life. We do many activities in each topic to relate to 6th graders and give them hands on experience. The topics we cover include: Dimensions of Health, Communication and Self Advocacy, Organizational Skills and Time Management, Body Systems, Nutrition, Puberty, Communicable Diseases, Emergency Preparedness & Safety, Drugs, Media influences on Health Behaviors, and Environmental Health.

6th Grade Electives:

NOTE: Your top choices are not guaranteed. All other elective classes will be used as alternatives and we reserve the right to withdraw, add or replace any classes due to insufficient enrollment or staffing. Requests for changes, other than those necessary for educational reasons or errors, will not be granted.

ALC Study Skills 6 (Year Long-Teacher Recommendation): This is a class that can be utilized for a variety of purposes dependent upon the needs of the student. The main focus is on teaching students to be more successful in school by staying organized, aware, and developing perseverance. This course replaces a yearlong elective or four quarter electives.

AVID Elective 6 (3 Quarters): (application and interview) AVID is a college readiness course designed to give students the skills to get to and graduate from college. AVID teaches skills for academic success through the use of WICOR, tutorials, Cornell Notes, binder organization, advanced coursework, leadership, personal relationships, and more. Interested students must apply and go through an interview process for acceptance into the class.

Band 6 (Year Long): Do you want to learn how to play an instrument and have fun performing music with friends? Then you should join band! 6th graders get to try out and choose an instrument to learn in band class. We perform concerts throughout the year and work as a team. This can be the beginning of a very special and important part of your life.

******This course fulfills the Music requirement. ******

Choir 6 (Year Long): In Choir we will discover the singing voice, how to work as an ensemble while preparing for concerts and have a lot of fun. We will also work to improve your skills in sight singing/ear training, music theory, music genres and music listening. ******This course fulfills the Music requirement. ******

Digital Literacy 6 (Quarter Long): Digital Literacy 6 is designed to give students a basic introduction to being a student in the digital age. Learn about online safety, your digital presence, cyberbullying, avoiding online scams, iPad apps, and more.

Family and Consumer Sciences 101 (FACS 101) (Quarter Long): Let's explore FACS! This is a project-based class full of hands-on activities and teamwork. Learn basic kitchen skills to prepare quick, easy snacks and meals. You'll practice your skills in the lab and eat what you prepare. You will also learn how to choose snacks that are not only tasty but healthy, too. In addition to cooking, learn how to hand sew and operate a sewing machine. Show off your new skills by sewing a pillowcase to take home. Throughout the quarter we will also focus on positive communication skills and learn how to work effectively with your classmates.

Gateway to Technology 6 (Quarter Long): The middle school program can show you how to build a robot, a dragster, and a fantastic future. Gateway to Technology is full of fun, hands-on activities. Students in 6th grade will be spending time in Design and Modeling, and Science of Technology, where they will be designing and manufacturing air dragsters and a candy machine. The five Gateway to Technology units are:

1. Design and Modeling
2. Science of Technology
3. Magic of Electrons
4. Automation and Robotics
5. Flight and Space

Guitar and Songwriting 6 (Quarter Long): In this class, students will learn how to play the guitar and create original songs. During this course, students will study and develop an understanding of basic music theory, song form and structure, music composition, and different musical genres. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Intro to Coding 6 (Quarter Long): In this introductory course, young students enter the world of computer science by learning how to create animations, computer games, and interactive projects. Using Scratch, a graphical programming language developed at MIT, students learn fundamental programming concepts such as variables, loops, conditional statements, and event handling. As they teach a mischievous cat to dance, explore a maze, or play games, students learn how to use math and computer code to think creatively. The course will show students how to make and import objects, create audio recordings, and use them to develop interactive projects. At the end of the course, students create their own computer game and share it.

Intro to Digital Photo & Graphic Design 6 (Quarter Long): Students will become well-rounded in the fundamentals of digital photography. Five areas of instruction will be emphasized: how cameras work; how composition works; how lighting works; how to use photo editing software; and how to effectively convey a visual message to an audience. Students will receive basic instruction, demonstration and view samples of the desired outcomes of each project. They will be allowed to go outside and shoot assignments, based on what they are learning. Perhaps the most useful part of classroom instruction will be critiques of photos students have shot. They will see what makes a successful photo and what does not. Students will utilize the iPad, digital cameras, and photo editing software. Although not required, students are encouraged to provide their own digital camera. *****This course fulfills the Art requirement.***** *This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education (Art Production, Art History, Art Theory and Art Criticism); students will maintain a sketchbook, portfolio and written assignments will be a required component of this course.*

Intro to Robotics 6 (Quarter Long): This is a beginning course in robotics. This course teaches the basic concepts of robotics, using Lego parts, with an emphasis on robotic vehicles. At the end of the course, students will design, manage, and build a robotic toy as a team.

Modern Music History 6 (Quarter Long): In this class students will read and write about music. We will study the music of the early 1900's through the present. Students will learn about important figures in music history, as well as learn about different genres such as jazz, blues, rock, hip hop, pop, and more. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Music Technology 6 (Quarter Long): 6th graders will be introduced to the basics of music technology. Students will study and analyze the elements of music, learn about different instruments, and identify various musical styles. This course will have a focus on using GarageBand and creating original music. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Orchestra 6 (Year Long): In Orchestra, students engage in making music as part of an ensemble by perfecting techniques, learning new skills, working as part of a team and having fun. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Piano Class 6 (Quarter Long): This class is for students who want to learn how to play piano! Students should be new to learning piano as this class will start with the basics. You'll learn how to read music and play some of your favorite songs. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Technology 6 (Quarter Long): Do you want to learn your way around the computer better, improve your speed and accuracy, organize files and evaluate websites? You can use Microsoft Office, Google Drive and web sites to make all of this happen! The possibilities are endless! You'll engage in using computer skills which are valuable for the rest of your life. Whether you have very little or a lot of experience with computers, there is more to learn in the digital world!

World Cultures I 6 (Quarter Long): Want to learn about the traditions or way of life of particular groups of people? Do you want an introduction to different Languages? Than World Cultures is for you! In this course you will get an introduction to the people, language, religion, music and holidays in **Latin America** and **East Africa**.

Wonderful World of Art! 6 (Quarter Long): Do you love to draw, paint and use clay? Then you should explore the Wonderful World of Art! Learn how to change a shape into a form using value; paint in the style of Vincent Van Gogh; create your own cartoon characters; discover 2-point perspective and more! Students will work with a variety of media including tempera, oil pastels, watercolor, clay and technology. *****This course fulfills the Art requirement.***** *(This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education and students will maintain a sketchbook and portfolio.)*

7th Grade Course Descriptions:

7th Grade Core Courses (All Year Long):

Language Arts 7: This is a core class designed to develop a student's reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening using the Minnesota Common Core Standards.

Advanced Language Arts 7: This is a core class designed to develop a student's reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening using the Minnesota Common Core Standards. As an advanced class, some standards of the next grade up will be used and different texts will be used for some of the units. Students are selected based on grades, work ethic, critical thinking skills, test scores, and teacher recommendations.

ALC Language Arts 7 (Teacher Recommendation): is a class designed to teach students the art of using language to communicate via reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening. Lessons are developed to help students improve upon the skills needed to meet the Minnesota Common Core Language Arts standards. Students in the ALC program are able to take advantage of looping with the same teacher for all three grades of middle school, small class sizes, and a flexible lesson schedule.

Pre-Algebra 7: 7th Grade Math is an important bridge between the abstract nature of Algebra and the more concrete nature of arithmetic in the younger grades. This course has a general goal of moving students toward a more complex way of thinking. Additionally, the foundations of Algebra start here, and are essential to master before moving onto the next step.

Algebra I 7: **7th Grade Advanced Math** is a study of the language, concepts, and techniques of Algebra that will prepare you to approach and solve problems following a logical succession of steps. Skills taught in the course lay the groundwork for upper-level math and science courses and have practical uses.

Life Science 7: Life Science is the study of living organisms within the ecosystem and their interactions with living and nonliving components. The units of study for seventh graders are: Invertebrates, the Scientific Method, the Metric System, Cells, Protists, Heredity, Evolution, and Vertebrates.

American Studies 7: American Studies 7 focuses on United States History with a strong emphasis on citizenship and government. We will round out the study of the United States History with important economic and geography content. Students learn about people, issues and events of significance to this nation's history from 1800 to the impact of World War II. They examine the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, and Supreme Court decisions for their lasting impact on the American people, economy and governance structure. Students study civics and economic principles in depth, drawing connections between these disciplines and history to explain the impact of various policies on how people lived, worked and functioned in society. They create and use detailed maps of places in the United States and conduct historical inquiry on a topic in the nation's history.

Advanced American Studies 7: Advanced American Studies 7 is designed to create a more rigorous academic experience for students with a more in-depth approach to United States History, citizenship and government. Students will frequently be asked to think, analyze and evaluate documents, events, people and policies like actual historians do. Students will be asked to use a variety of primary and secondary sources to gain more insight into understanding the events that have shaped our nation.

Physical Education 7: In PE 7 students will study a variety of motor skills and movement patterns. Students will learn concepts, principles, strategies and tactics related to movement and performance along with the skills necessary to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness. Responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others are interwoven into the course. The value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression and/or social interaction will be learned. Students will complete a variety of activities including: Team Building, Disc Golf, Throton, Soccer, Volleyball, Archery, Fitness, Floor Hockey, Table Tennis, Basketball, Tumbling, Team Handball, Wiffle Ball and Tennis. Students also complete portions of the FitnessGram fitness test (curl-ups, pull-ups/flexed arm hang, mile, and back-saver sit and reach).

Health 7: Students will learn skills and strategies that will be beneficial for them to make healthy decisions now and for a lifetime. Topics covered include: Non-communicable diseases, stress, mental/emotional health, nutrition, alcohol and other drugs, reproduction, and healthy relationships.

7th Grade Electives:

NOTE: *Your top choices are not guaranteed. All other elective classes will be used as alternatives and we reserve the right to withdraw, add or replace any classes due to insufficient enrollment or staffing. Requests for changes, other than those necessary for educational reasons or errors, will not be granted.*

ALC Study Skills 7 (Year Long-Teacher Recommendation): This is a class that can be utilized for a variety of purposes dependent upon the needs of the student. The main focus is on teaching students to be more successful in school by staying organized, aware, and developing perseverance. This course replaces a yearlong elective or four quarter electives.

Art: Express Yourself! 7 (Quarter Long): Have something to say? Do you value individuality and creativity? Then make a statement and Express Yourself! Students will dive into the world of Expressionism and Abstract Expressionism in addition to other Art genres and learn how to express their ideas and feelings through Art. Learn about symbolism in Art, develop creative problem solving skills and utilize technology. *(This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education (Art Production, Art History, Art Theory and Art Criticism); and students will maintain a sketchbook and portfolio.)*

*****This course fulfills the Art requirement.*****

Art Rocks! 7 (Quarter Long): Just like music uses sound, Art uses images to tell stories. Students will be introduced to a variety of folk art from around the world. We will create amazing pieces, such as: Oaxacan (Mexican) clay whistles, Amaté Bark Painting, African mask making, collage/painting in the style of Romare Bearden (Harlem Renaissance), Native American artwork and more! *(This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education (Art Production, Art History, Art Theory and Art Criticism); and students will maintain a sketchbook and portfolio.)* *****This course fulfills the Art requirement.*****

AVID Elective 7 (Year long): (application and interview) The AVID 7 elective class is designed to prepare students for taking rigorous courses in high school that will put them on a college bound path. Curriculum in this class focuses on writing, critical thinking, collaboration, reading, note-taking, study skills, organization, time-management and college/career/motivational activities. Students are expected to keep an organized binder and take notes in every class every day of the week. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, students participate in collaborative study groups or tutorials led by tutors who use skillful questioning to bring students to a higher level of understanding.

Band 7 (Year Long): In 7th & 8th grade, we continue building on the skills we learned in 6th grade band. There will be additional performance opportunities throughout the year. We will study more challenging music and further improve our musicianship skills. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Beginning Band 7 (Year Long): This class is designed for 7th grade students with no prior band experience. Learn how to play an instrument if you missed your chance last year! *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Beginning Orchestra 7 (Year Long): This class is designed for 7th grade students with no prior orchestra experience. Learn how to play an instrument if you missed your chance last year! *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Choir 7 (Year Long): In Choir we will discover the singing voice, how to work as an ensemble while preparing for concerts and have a lot of fun. We will also work to improve your skills in sight singing/ear training, music theory, music genres and music listening. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Creative Writing 7 (Quarter Long): Students will have the opportunity to work on the following writing projects: short stories, poems, journals, posters, blogs and letters. Careers that involve writing will also be explored.

Design 7 (Quarter Long): Do you love hands-on projects? Are you a creative thinker? Design is a project-based class that will allow you to express yourself through interior design and sewing projects. Learn about color, design elements, housing trends, floor plans and more while you design your own room during our interior design unit. Learn how to use a sewing machine to sew your own bag to take home with you.

Digital Literacy 7 (Quarter Long): Digital Literacy 7 is designed to give students a basic introduction to being a student in the digital age. Learn about online safety, your digital presence, cyberbullying, avoiding online scams, stop motion animation, and more.

Digital Photography 7 (Quarter Long): Students will build-upon 6th Grade Photography and explore further composition styles and techniques. Emphasis is on self-expression and successfully conveying a visual concept to an audience. Five areas of instruction will be emphasized: how cameras work; how composition works; how lighting works; how to use photo editing software; and how to effectively convey a visual message to an audience. Students will receive basic instruction, demonstration and view samples of the desired outcomes of each project. Weekly critiques will develop critical thinking skills and forward their work. They will see what makes a successful photo and what does not. Students will utilize the iPad, computer, digital cameras, and photo editing software. Although not required, students are encouraged to provide their own digital camera.

*****This course fulfills the Art requirement.*****

This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education (Art Production, Art History, Art Theory and Art Criticism); students will maintain a sketchbook, portfolio and written assignments will be a required component of this course.

Foods 7 (Quarter Long): Do you enjoy eating and want to know how to make the foods you love? Learn about food groups, unit pricing, table setting, and garnishing all while practicing kitchen skills to plan and prepare tasty meals. This hands-on class will help take you to the next level in the kitchen. Show off what you learn during the quarter by inviting a guest to enjoy a meal you prepare.

Gateway to Technology 7 (Quarter Long): Do you want to know how to build a robot, a dragster, and a fantastic future? Gateway to Technology 7 is full of fun, hands-on activities. In this class you will be spending time in Design and Modeling, Science of Technology, and Flight and Space, where you will be designing and manufacturing magnetic levitation racers, a model rocket, and plastic penholders. The five Gateway to Technology units are:

1. Design and Modeling
2. Science of Technology
3. Magic of Electrons
4. Automation and Robotics
5. Flight and Space

Graphic Design 7 (Quarter Long): During this course, students will begin their journey into the world of graphic design. They will develop logos, posters, packaging, branding and create advertising campaigns. Students will work with typography and image manipulation to create unique design projects and proposals. They will also consider the differences between Fine Art and Design. Art history and writing assignments will be a required component of this course. *****This course fulfills the Art requirement.*****

This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education (Art Production, Art History, Art Theory and Art Criticism); students will maintain a sketchbook, portfolio and written assignments will be a required component of this course.

Guitar and Songwriting 7 (Quarter Long): In this class, students will learn how to play the guitar and create original songs. During this course, students will study and develop an understanding of basic music theory, song form and structure, music composition, and different musical genres. This course is designed for students who have no prior guitar experience. **If you took this course as a 6th grader you cannot take it as a 7th grader.** *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Intro to Coding 7 (Quarter Long): In this introductory course, young students enter the world of computer science by learning how to create animations, computer games, and interactive projects. Using Scratch, a graphical programming language developed at MIT, students learn fundamental programming concepts such as variables, loops, conditional statements, and event handling. As they teach a mischievous cat to dance, explore a maze, or play games, students learn how to use math and computer code to think creatively. The course will show students how to make and import objects, create audio recordings, and use them to develop interactive projects. At the end of the course, students create their own computer game and share it.

If you took this course as a 6th grader you cannot take it as a 7th grader.

Intro to Robotics 7 (Quarter Long): This is a beginning course in robotics. This course teaches the basic concepts of robotics, using Lego parts, with an emphasis on robotic vehicles. At the end of the course, students will design, manage, and build a robotic toy as a team. **If you took this course as a 6th grader you cannot take it as a 7th grader.**

Media Literacy 7 (Quarter Long): All forms of news and information media will be studied in this class such as newspapers, TV, magazines and social media. Students will watch a brief news show each day that is especially for teenagers and have the opportunity to discuss current events. Units include: Real vs. Fake News; Advertising; Using Media to Share Good News; and Social Media and a Positive Online Presence. Reading material will be nonfiction journalism articles from the media.

Modern Music History 7 (Quarter Long): In this class students will read and write about music. We will study the music of the early 1900's through the present. Students will learn about important figures in music history, as well as learn about different genres such as jazz, blues, rock, hip hop, pop, and more. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Orchestra 7 (Year Long): In Orchestra, students engage in making music as part of an ensemble by perfecting techniques, learning new skills, working as part of a team and having fun. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Piano Class 7 (Quarter Long): This class is for students who want to learn how to play piano! Students should be new to learning piano as this class will start with the basics. You'll learn how to read music and play some of your favorite songs.

****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Python Coding I 7 (Quarter Long): Prerequisite Coding 6 or Coding 7. Python is a modern computer language that is used in industry to write computer programs. Some parts of Wikipedia are written in Python! This class builds upon the concepts in Introduction to Coding to familiarize students with variables, expressions, control statements, loops, subroutines, strings, objects, and classes.

Robotics Mechanics 7 (Quarter Long): Prerequisite Robotics 7 or Robotics 8. Mechanics is the study of how things move or keep their shape. It applies concepts from geometry and physical science such as displacement, angle, force, and torque. Students will use these principles to analyze and design static structures, simple machines, robotic arms, and robotic hands.

Technology & Business 7 (Quarter Long): Take your Microsoft Office skills and Google Drive knowledge to the next level by exploring some "real life" experiences! Be a designer, manage your money, make business decisions and experience success! This course will also allow you to learn the basics of web page design. Creativity (you make choices), critical thinking (you make decisions) and collaboration (working with classmates) are keys to your success in this class!

World Cultures I 7 (Quarter Long): Want to learn about the traditions or way of life of particular groups of people? Do you want an introduction to different Languages? Than World Cultures is for you! In this course you will get an introduction to the people, language, religion, music and holidays in **Latin America** and **East Africa**. **If you took this course as a 6th grader you cannot take it as a 7th grader.**

World Cultures II 7 (Quarter Long): Want to learn about the traditions or way of life of particular groups of people? Do you want an introduction to different Languages? Than World Cultures 2 is for you! In this course you will get an introduction to the people, language, religion, music and holidays in **East Asia & Europe**.

8th Grade Course Descriptions:

8th Grade Core Courses (All Year Long):

Language Arts 8: This is a core class designed to develop a student's reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening using the Minnesota Common Core Standards.

Advanced Language Arts 8: This is a core class designed to develop a student's reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening using the Minnesota Common Core Standards. As an advanced class, some standards of the next grade up will be used and different texts will be used for some of the units. Students are selected based on grades, work ethic, critical thinking skills, test scores, and teacher recommendations.

ALC Language Arts 8 (Teacher Recommendation): This is a class designed to teach students the art of using language to communicate via reading, writing, speaking, viewing, and listening. Lessons are developed to help students improve upon the skills needed to meet the Minnesota Common Core Language Arts standards. Students in the ALC program are able to take advantage of looping with the same teacher for all three grades of middle school, small class sizes, and a flexible lesson schedule.

Algebra I 8: Algebra I addresses the linear components of the algebra standards. Topics included in the course are operations with real numbers, solving equations and inequalities, applying functions, and solving systems of equations and inequalities.

Intermediate Algebra 8: (Advanced Math 8) Intermediate Algebra addresses the linear and nonlinear components of the algebra standards. Topics are the same as Algebra I with the inclusion of statistics, probability and exponential, polynomial, quadratic and radical functions.

****This course goes on student's High School transcript.**

Earth Science 8: Earth science—the study of the Earth! Throughout the year we will integrate the practice and nature of science and engineering with our other topics and learn these concepts in an Earth science context.

The following is a summary of what students will come to understand.

- **Practice and Nature of Science and Engineering:** Students will understand that science is a way of knowing about the world through scientific inquiry using multiple skills to design and conduct investigations through current technology.
- **Matter:** Students will understand the structure of matter and its characteristics, including chemical and physical changes, elements, mixtures and pure substances.
- **Geology:** Students will understand the patterns of change and constancy in the Earth and its history, including plate tectonics, weathering and erosion of landforms, minerals, rocks and rock layers.
- **Astronomy:** Students will understand Earth's position and its interaction in the solar system and its place in the universe, including the Sun, Moon, rotation and seasons.
- **Meteorology:** Students will understand the patterns of change and constancy in the Earth's atmosphere and climate, including composition and structure, wind systems and ocean currents, energy transfer, moisture content, weather patterns and predictions.

Global Studies 8: In this course students will be able to understand, discuss and experience learning about the many different geographic features & cultures within World Studies. Students will participate in activities and projects which will include, but are not limited to:

- Using and interpreting maps, graphs, charts, and diagrams
- Studying various geographical land and water physical features
- Exploring regions of the world, specifically: continents, the U.S., Canada, Latin America, Europe, Russia, Africa, Asia, Australia, Oceania, and Antarctica

Advanced Global Studies 8: The content and objectives of this course are the same as Global Studies with the exception of essay questions, a book study, and class wide discussions. The advanced class moves faster in order to dive deeper into subject matter and is more challenging.

Physical Education 8: In PE 8 students will study a variety of motor skills and movement patterns. Students will learn concepts, principles, strategies and tactics related to movement and performance along with the skills necessary to achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of physical activity and fitness. Responsible personal and social behavior that respects self and others are interwoven into the course. The value of physical activity for health, enjoyment, challenge, self-expression and/or social interaction will be learned. Students will complete a variety of activities including: Team Building, Rugby, LaCrosse, Pickleball, Weight Training, Volleyball, Table Tennis/Table Ball, Spikeball, Cross Country Skiing, Team Handball, Floor Hockey, Yoga/Zumba, Tennis, Softball. Students also complete portions of the FitnessGram fitness test (curl-ups, pull-ups/flexed arm hang, mile, and back-saver sit and reach).

Health 8: This is a year long class that meets every other day. The goal of this class is to inform students about healthy and unhealthy behaviors and how their behaviors can affect the health of others. While practicing health related skills such as decision making, goal setting, and health advocacy students will learn about mental health, nutrition, stress, puberty/sexual health, CPR/First Aid, body systems, and common sports injuries.

8th Grade Electives:

NOTE: *Your top choices are not guaranteed. All other elective classes will be used as alternatives and we reserve the right to withdraw, add or replace any classes due to insufficient enrollment or staffing. Requests for changes, other than those necessary for educational reasons or errors, will not be granted.*

ALC Study Skills 8 (Year Long-Teacher Recommendation): This is a class that can be utilized for a variety of purposes dependent upon the needs of the student. The main focus is on teaching students to be more successful in school by staying organized, aware, and developing perseverance. This course replaces a yearlong elective or four quarter electives.

Amazing Art Race! 8 (Quarter Long): Ready . . . Set . . . Go! Put on your Indiana Jones hat and grab a sketchbook! The race is on to travel the globe and experience the many art forms of the ancient and modern world. We begin our travels in Asia, where we will study ancient Chinese art, learn traditional Korean clay techniques, do traditional fish prints and Japanese brush painting. Eventually, our journey takes us home to America. Here, we will explore the Totems of the Inuit tribes of Alaska and view the glorious memorials and monuments of the United States. We will also dive into the world of Pop Art, study kinetic sculpture and discuss the idea of graffiti as art. Whew! What an adventure! *(This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education (Art Production, Art History, Art Theory and Art Criticism); and students will maintain a sketchbook and portfolio.)*

*****This course fulfills the Art requirement.*****

AVID Elective 8 (Year Long): (application and interview) AVID is a college readiness course designed to give students the skills to get to and graduate from college. AVID teaches skills for academic success through the use of WICOR, tutorials, Cornell Notes, binder organization, advanced coursework, leadership, personal relationships, and more. Interested students must apply and go through an interview process for acceptance into the class.

Band 8 (Year Long): In 8th grade, we continue building on the skills we learned in 6th and 7th grade band. There will be additional performance opportunities throughout the year. We will study more challenging music and further improve our musicianship skills. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Beginning Band 8 (Year Long): This class is designed for 8th grade students with no prior band experience. Learn how to play an instrument if you missed your chance last year! *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Business Workshop 8 (Quarter Long): Here is your chance to DESIGN IT, MAKE IT AND OWN IT! In this workshop (class) you get to experience Marketing (surveys, posters, selling), Design Thinking (take your ideas and turn them into products), Entrepreneurship (take ownership and make decisions), Personal Finance (the value of money and how to make “more” money), Accounting (how to keep track of your finances), and Career Exploration (what opportunities are out there for you)! The “real life” experiences will build a strong foundation for making intelligent, lifelong, personal finance decisions! Daily activities and hands-on experiences will allow you to engage in activities which interest you!

Choir 8 (Year Long): In Choir we will discover the singing voice, how to work as an ensemble while preparing for concerts and have a lot of fun. We will also work to improve your skills in sight singing/ear training, music theory, music genres and music listening. *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

Creative Thinking and Design 8 (Quarter Long): Do you love to create? In Creative Thinking and Design you will create in a variety of different ways including block coding, digital books, graphic design, video design, hands-on learning, and more. Emphasis will be placed on creative thinking and finding new ways to solve real problems. Creative Writing 8 Students will have the opportunity to work on the following writing projects: short stories, poems, journals, posters, blogs and letters. Careers that involve writing will also be explored.

Creative Writing 8 (Quarter Long): Students will have the opportunity to work on the following writing projects: short stories, poems, journals, posters, blogs and letters. Careers that involve writing will also be explored.

Digital Literacy 8 (Quarter Long): In Digital Literacy 8 students will develop the skill and know-how to be successful in the 21st century. Class topics will focus on digital safety as well as the 4Cs: communication, collaboration, critical thinking, and creativity.

Draw – Paint – Design! 8 (Quarter Long): What do the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles have to do with Art? Sign up and find out! This more advanced course expands on drawing and painting techniques and will cover the basics of design including layout, composition, typography, messaging and Photography. Students will: improve drawing and painting skills; explore the world of Graphic Design and Photography; and enjoy the freedom to develop and create a unique multimedia piece. *(This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education (Art Production, Art History, Art Theory and Art Criticism); and students will maintain a sketchbook and portfolio.)* *****This course fulfills the Art requirement.*****

Foods 8 (Quarter Long): Do you have what it takes to be a top chef? Would you like to travel the world through food? Learn about the types of foods people eat in other areas of the United States and in other countries while having the opportunity to prepare and taste a variety of foods! After practicing your kitchen skills throughout the international foods unit, step up to the plate and participate in class cooking competitions! Will your team win the “Chopped Junior” challenge or class bake-off?

Gateway to Technology 8 (Quarter Long): Students in 8th grade will be spending time doing the following units: Design and Modeling, Science of Technology, and Magic of Electrons where they will be designing and manufacturing a fold-up camping stool and an electronic “bug” toy.

Guitar & Songwriting 8 (Quarter Long): In this class, students will learn how to play the guitar and create original songs. During this course, students will study and develop an understanding of basic music theory, song form and structure, music composition, and different musical genres. This course is designed for students who have no prior guitar experience. **If you took this course as a 7th grader you cannot take it as a 8th grader.** *****This course fulfills the Music requirement.*****

How does Advertising Work? Graphic Design 8 (Quarter Long): During this course, students will begin their journey into the world of graphic design. They will develop logos, posters, packaging, branding and create advertising campaigns. Students will work with typography and image manipulation to create unique design projects and proposals. They will also consider the differences between Fine Art and Design. *****This course fulfills the Art requirement.*****

This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education (Art Production, Art History, Art Theory and Art Criticism); students will maintain a sketchbook, portfolio and written assignments will be a required component of this course.

How do you see the World? Digital Photography 8 (Quarter Long): During this course, students will expand on their knowledge of photography and digital photography. They will use photography as an expressive and documentary art form through a variety of assignments and prompts. Students will develop their photographic skills, integrating the basic *Elements and Principles of Art* (such as form, texture, value, line, rhythm, unity) as well as develop a strong concept of composition. In addition to design concepts and composition, students will use computers/iPads as basic photo editing tools. Although not required, students are encouraged to provide their own digital camera. *****This course fulfills the Art requirement.*****

This course incorporates the four strands of DBAE Art Education (Art Production, Art History, Art Theory and Art Criticism); students will maintain a sketchbook, portfolio and written assignments will be a required component of this course.

Intro Coding 8 (Quarter Long): In this introductory course, young students enter the world of computer science by learning how to create animations, computer games, and interactive projects. Using Scratch, a graphical programming language developed at MIT, students learn fundamental programming concepts such as variables, loops, conditional statements, and event handling. As they teach a mischievous cat to dance, explore a maze, or play games, students learn how to use math and computer code to think creatively. The course will show students how to make and import objects, create audio recordings, and use them to develop interactive projects. At the end of the course, students create their own computer game and share it. ***If you took this course as a 7th grader you cannot take it as an 8th grader.***

Intro to Robotics 8 (Quarter Long): This is a beginning course in robotics. This course teaches the basic concepts of robotics, using Lego parts, with an emphasis on robotic vehicles. At the end of the course, students will design, manage, and build a robotic toy as a team. ***If you took this course as a 7th grader you cannot take it as an 8th grader.***

Media Literacy 8 (Quarter Long): Media such as newspapers, TV, magazines and social media will be studied. Students will watch a brief news show each day that is especially for teenagers. Units include: Real vs. Fake News; Advertising; Using Media to Share Good News; and Social Media and a Positive Online Presence.

Modern Music History 8 (Quarter Long): In this class students will read and write about music. We will study the music of the early 1900's through the present. Students will learn about important figures in music history, as well as learn about different genres such as jazz, blues, rock, hip hop, pop, and more. ******This course fulfills the Music requirement.******

Orchestra 8 (Year Long): In Orchestra, students engage in making music as part of an ensemble by perfecting techniques, learning new skills, working as part of a team and having fun. ******This course fulfills the Music requirement.******

Piano Class 8 (Quarter Long): This class is for students who want to learn how to play piano! Students should be new to learning piano as this class will start with the basics. You'll learn how to read music and play some of your favorite songs. ******This course fulfills the Music requirement.******

Python Coding I 8 (Quarter Long): Prerequisite Coding 6, Coding 7, or Coding 8. Python is a modern computer language that is used in industry to write computer programs. Some parts of Wikipedia are written in Python! This class builds upon the concepts in Introduction to Coding to familiarize students with variables, expressions, control statements, loops, subroutines, strings, objects, and classes.

Robotics Mechanics 8 (Quarter Long): Prerequisite Robotics 7 or Robotics 8. Mechanics is the study of how things move or keep their shape. It applies concepts from geometry and physical science such as displacement, angle, force, and torque. Students will use these principles to analyze and design static structures, simple machines, robotic arms, and robotic hands.

World Cultures I 8 (Quarter Long): Want to learn about the traditions or way of life of particular groups of people? Do you want an introduction to different Languages? Than World Cultures is for you! In this course you will get an introduction to the people, language, religion, music and holidays in **Latin America** and **East Africa**. ***If you took this course as a 7th grader you cannot take it as an 8th grader.***

World Cultures II 8 (Quarter Long): Want to learn about the traditions or way of life of particular groups of people? Do you want an introduction to different Languages? Than World Cultures 2 is for you! In this course you will get an introduction to the people, language, religion, music and holidays in **East Asia & Europe**.